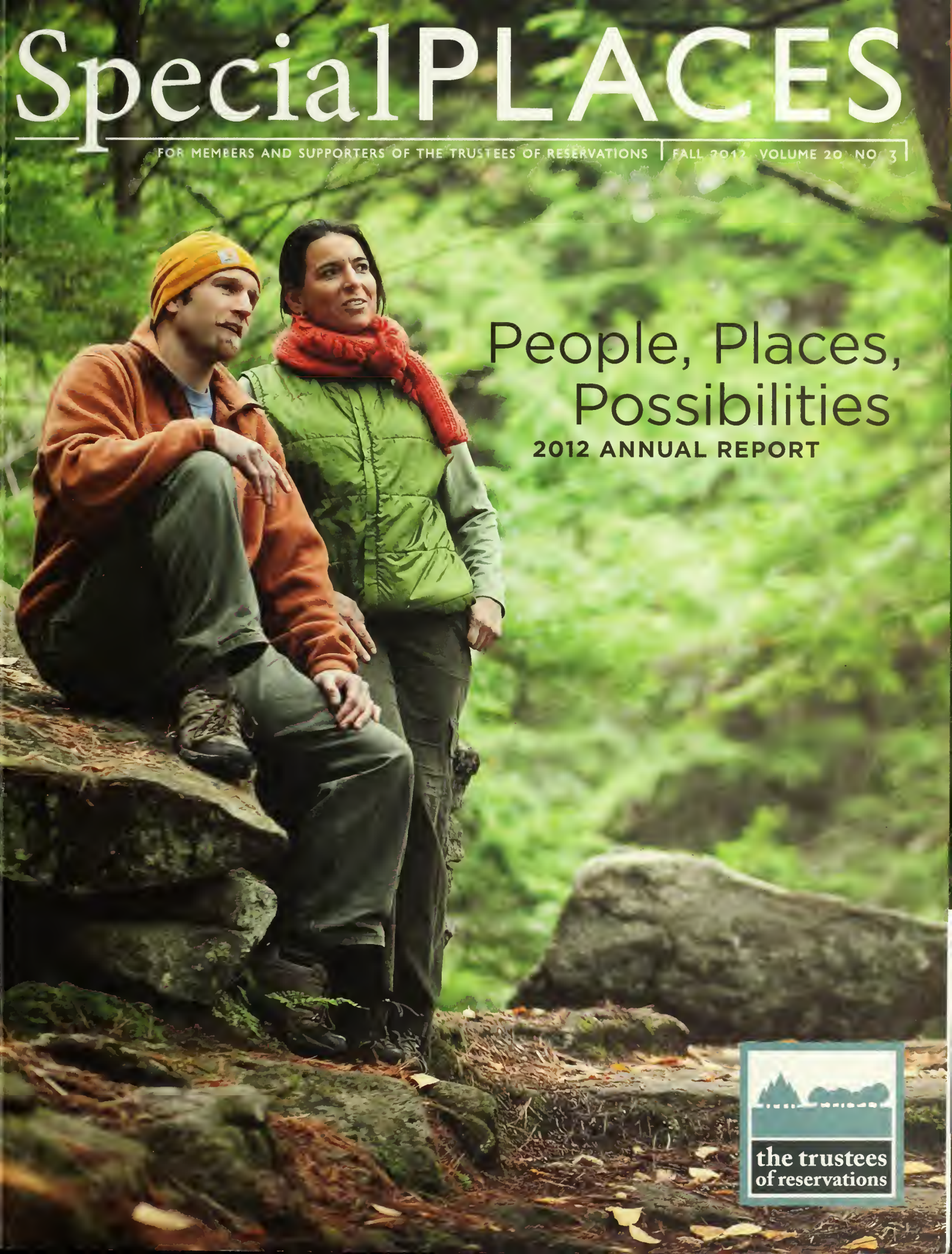
SpecialPLACES

FOR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS | FALL 2012 VOLUME 20 NO. 3



People, Places, Possibilities

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

the trustees of reservations

ON THE COVER:
Hikers enjoy the scenery at Doane's Falls in Royalston.
PHOTO: T.KATES



PASSION FOR PLACE

4 A GRAND FINALE
The completed restoration of the Crane Estate's Grand Allée ensures a peerless – and sustainable – landscape for decades to come.

8 READY, SET: AMES
The Town of Easton rallies to protect the historic Governor Ames property.

9 OFF THE SHELF
The Archives and Research Center keeps our treasures – and our stories – secure.



INSPIRING ACTION

10 COMMON GROUND
Celebrating a decade of accomplishment by the Highland Communities Initiative.

12 FOR THE LOVE OF THE LAND
Lucy Keefe caps off a decades-long exploration of the natural world by protecting the land where her journey began.

13 20,000 & COUNTING
The Trustees reach a conservation milestone, thanks to the generosity of more than 350 landowners across the state.

Together, we're creating a brighter future for Massachusetts.



FUTURE PROMISE

14 A NEW LEAF
A pivotal merger ensures a bright future for 16 of Boston's community gardens and parks.

17 MONSON MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN
Volunteer of the Year Denis Duquette goes above and beyond – with his time and his talent.

18 OF BEETLES & BUCKTHORN
It takes a village to outsmart invasive species.



MORE NEWS & EVENTS

19 LAND CONSERVATION

22 FINANCIAL REPORT

24 THINGS TO DO THIS FALL

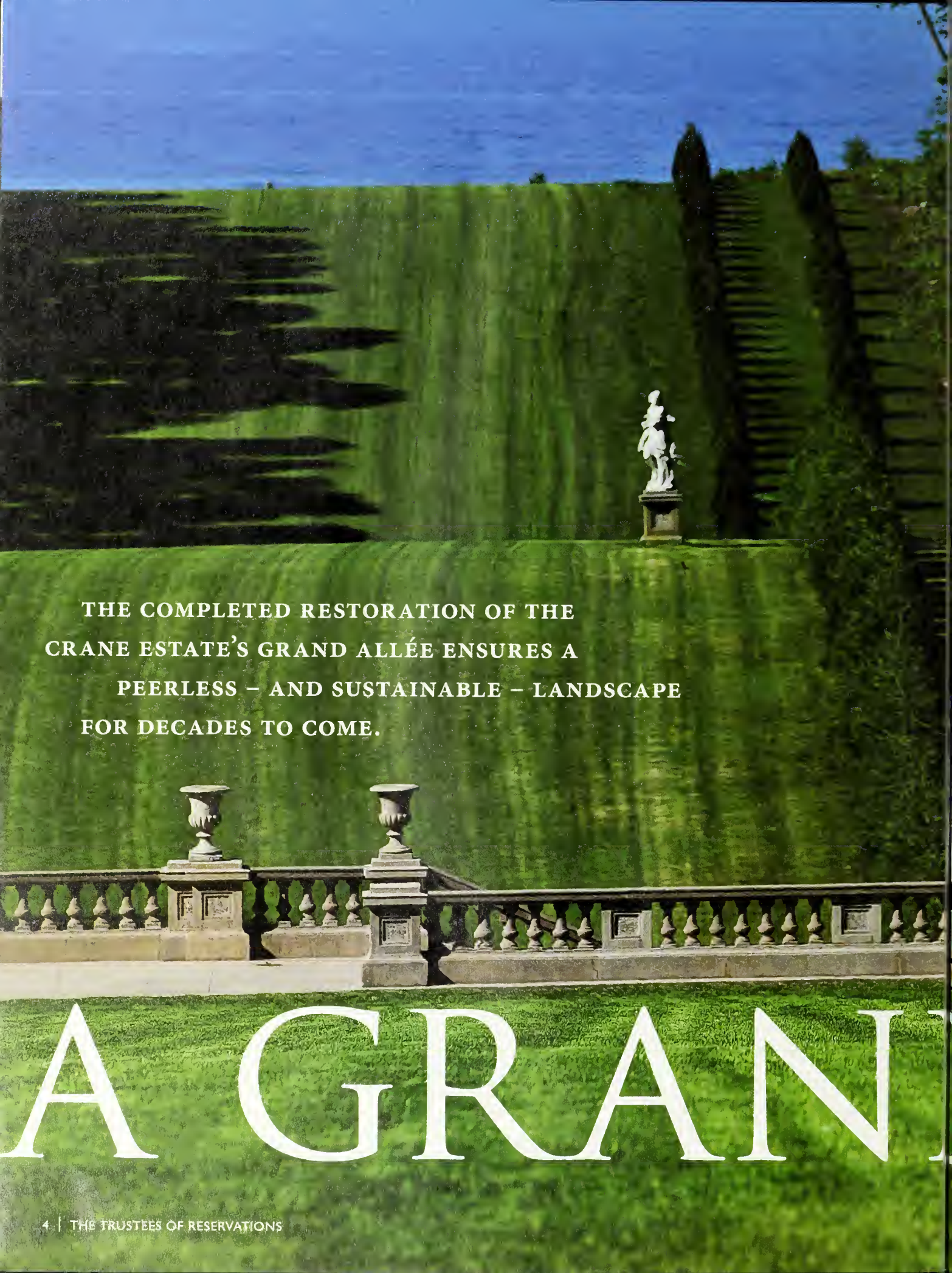
30 GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

34 DONOR SUPPORT

44 SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY

46 A GARDEN OF GRACE NOTES

BACK COVER FANTASTIC FOUR



THE COMPLETED RESTORATION OF THE CRANE ESTATE'S GRAND ALLÉE ENSURES A PEERLESS – AND SUSTAINABLE – LANDSCAPE FOR DECADES TO COME.

A GRAN



D FINALE

BY APRIL AUSTIN



STATELY ROWS OF YOUNG TREES STAND IN FORMATION ALONG THE EDGE OF A WIDE LAWN THAT BECKONS VISITORS TOWARD AN UNMATCHED OCEAN VISTA. THE SENTINEL LINE OF EVERGREENS, 700 STRONG, EMPHASIZES THE ROLLING EXPANSE OF GRASS BELOW AND SKY ABOVE, WHILE NEWLY RESTORED CLASSICAL STATUES GLEAM WHITE AGAINST THE EMERALD GREEN BACKDROP.

The Grand Allée on the Crane Estate has captivated generations of visitors for nearly a century. This half-mile-long, 100-foot-wide stretch of turf, bordered by two rows of trees, connects the Great House on Castle Hill to a cliff overlooking the beach and an expansive ocean vista beyond. It adds an extra grace note to an already elegant estate, which is itself set within a spectacular natural environment of salt marsh and barrier beach.

The Trustees of Reservations have just completed the restoration of the Grand Allée – the most ambitious such project in their 121-year history. The effort, which cost $2 million, restores the original vision of the historic landscape's designer and also ensures its sustainability – so that it will continue to bring enjoyment to visitors for decades to come.

Noted landscape architect Arthur Shurcliff designed the Grand Allée and oversaw its installation from 1913 to 1915. By the 1990s, however, the trees were showing their age, and the design details – so carefully worked out by Shurcliff – were becoming obscured. The inner hedgerow of trees, which had been sheared regularly until the 1940s, had become overgrown, eclipsing the classically inspired statuary. The mature trees were also susceptible to damage from strong coastal storms and harsh North Shore winters.

The Trustees soon developed an ambitious plan for returning the landscape to Shurcliff's original design: They would remove and replant all 700 trees. The plan called for three phases over three years, beginning with the trees closest to the Great House and moving outward hill by hill toward the sea.

As project manager and Crane Estate superintendent Bob Murray and others began to put the plan into action, they realized they also had a unique opportunity to introduce sustainable practices into the Allée's ongoing care and management. The aging trees that were removed were reused as saw logs for lumber or wood chips for energy production.

Perhaps most exciting, and impactful, says Murray, "we were able to reuse an existing rainwater-collection cistern built by the Estate's original owner, Richard T. Crane, Jr., who was an industrial plumbing magnate," says Murray. "Crane was really ahead of his time in creating



LEFT: The Allée is an unforgettable setting for weddings, concerts, and other events. BELOW: Plus it's the perfect spot for summertime fun for our SummerQuest campers.



a self-sustaining system designed to nurture the entire estate landscape, which is still as innovative and effective 100 years later."

Today, the cistern is online, collecting rainwater runoff from the house and providing much-needed irrigation for the young trees – without tapping the public water supply. These trees, however, will not be allowed to go the path of their predecessors and grow unabated. Modern equipment will replace the legion of gardeners employed by the Cranes to keep the hedge in check, says Murray.

The restoration hews closely to Shurcliff's original intent: to create a European-style formal landscape using only three species of trees. "Shurcliff made it look effortless and simple," says Lucinda Brockway, Allée project designer and now Cultural Resources Program Director for The Trustees. "His classically inspired restraint is what makes it sublime."

The restoration project has increased her appreciation for Shurcliff's mastery of landscape details, Brockway says. "He was so careful about perspective, about the merging view lines toward the water. If you kept the trees going 100 feet apart down the Allée, the lines would eventually appear to narrow. To keep that from happening, he stepped back the last rows of trees just a few feet, so that, when you're taking in the Allée as a whole, your eye sees it as a continuous line. It's so subtle yet it makes such a difference."

It's not just its scale or the meticulous detail of its design that makes the Allée stand out among American designed landscapes, however. "The Allée is an extraordinary work of art made even more exceptional by its juxtaposition to outstanding natural scenery," says Brockway. The 165-acre estate grounds lie within a 2,100-acre preserve, which itself sits within a 25,000-acre salt marsh. "The union of the natural and the designed landscape make the whole more important than the sum of its parts."

The Cranes' granddaughter, Tatiana Bezamat – a dedicated supporter and volunteer at the Estate who is passionate about finding ways to encourage more people to enjoy its beauty – was very young when her grandmother, Florence Crane, left the property and its surrounding land to The Trustees in 1949, but she recalls her mother describing the lavish picnics, parties, and boat trips she attended during her summers on the Estate. "To create and maintain this huge estate is just unimaginable to us today," Bezamat says.

Bezamat emphasizes her tremendous gratitude to all the people – from the many donors to the staff, workers, and volunteers – involved in the restoration. With work now going forward to restore the area known as the Casino – Italian for "little house" and consisting of a ballroom and what were formerly "bachelor's quarters" for male guests – she is pleased with the completion of the Allée. "The Grand Allée is such an important part of the whole complex," she says. "My grandparents would be thrilled."

See photos and video of the restoration in progress at www.thetrustees.org/allee.

April Austin writes about landscape, design, art and culture around New England for Wellesley College Magazine *and other publications from her home in Lexington.*

The Allée is an extraordinary work of art made even more exceptional by its juxtaposition to outstanding natural scenery.
– LUCINDA BROCKWAY



Ready, Set: Ames

COMMUNITY RALLIES TO PROTECT THE GOVERNOR AMES PROPERTY

BY KATHARINE WROTH

IF SOMEONE ASKED YOU WHERE TO FIND BUILDINGS DESIGNED BY NOTED ARCHITECT H.H. RICHARDSON, LANDSCAPES CREATED BY FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED, AND STAINED GLASS CRAFTED BY ARTIST JOHN LAFARGE, YOU MIGHT ANSWER BOSTON, CHICAGO, OR NEW YORK CITY — AND RIGHTFULLY SO. BUT THERE'S ANOTHER PLACE WHERE THE WORK OF THESE 19TH-CENTURY MASTERS IS ON DISPLAY: EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

TUCKED AWAY LESS THAN 30 MILES FROM BOSTON, Easton is a quiet town whose modest size belies its star-studded cultural history. But the significance of that rich past is not lost on its 23,000 residents, who voted last year to put $500,000 in Community Preservation Act funds toward the purchase of a 36-acre property known as the Governor Ames Estate. That pledge, plus $500,000 in matching funds from the state LAND program, made it possible for The Trustees to make a $4 million investment in the property, which will now be owned by the organization and permanently protected as a community park.

"Easton is known for two things: historic preservation of our architectural assets and protection of open space," says Colleen Corona, chair of the board of selectmen, who has lived in town with her family for 17 years. "This was an incredible opportunity for our community, and everyone I spoke with was enthusiastic about it."

Perhaps no one was more enthusiastic than members of the Ames family, whose industrial and cultural contributions have helped shape Easton since the early 19th century. Their national renown and success was built on a shovel manufacturing company that supplied tools for, among other seminal American events, the Civil War and the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad. The family's influence is still very much in evidence; among other things, their name graces the town library and high school, as well as the imposing Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, one of five Richardson-designed structures in North Easton village. Family members are still active in many local institutions.



"We felt if there was anything we could do to preserve the property, it would be really worthwhile," says David Ames, Jr., a distant cousin of the property's original owner Oliver Ames, who served as Massachusetts governor from 1887–1890. "So many of the historic buildings in the village have been preserved and are in active use today; it would have been a shame if this key property were developed."

For The Trustees, the property provides an exciting opportunity to work with a community that is deeply committed to protecting its natural and cultural resources. Town leaders are in the process of establishing the Shovel Town Cultural District in North Easton, which was also named a national historic district in 1972. Ames says The Trustees' century of experience managing properties across the state makes it an important contributor to the town's effort to keep its history alive.

The newly renamed Governor Ames Community Park, whose features include rare trees planted by the governor and his son Oakes, is now open to the public, with a community-planning process underway to determine specific uses and improvements. Corona, who envisions family activities and walking trails, among other opportunities, is looking forward to working with The Trustees on this next phase: "We're fully aware of their history and the job they've done in other communities, and we're really excited," she says. "This is truly a win-win for our town."

Katharine Wroth is a senior writer at Grist.org. *Her work has appeared in* Special Places *and other publications.*

Off the Shelf

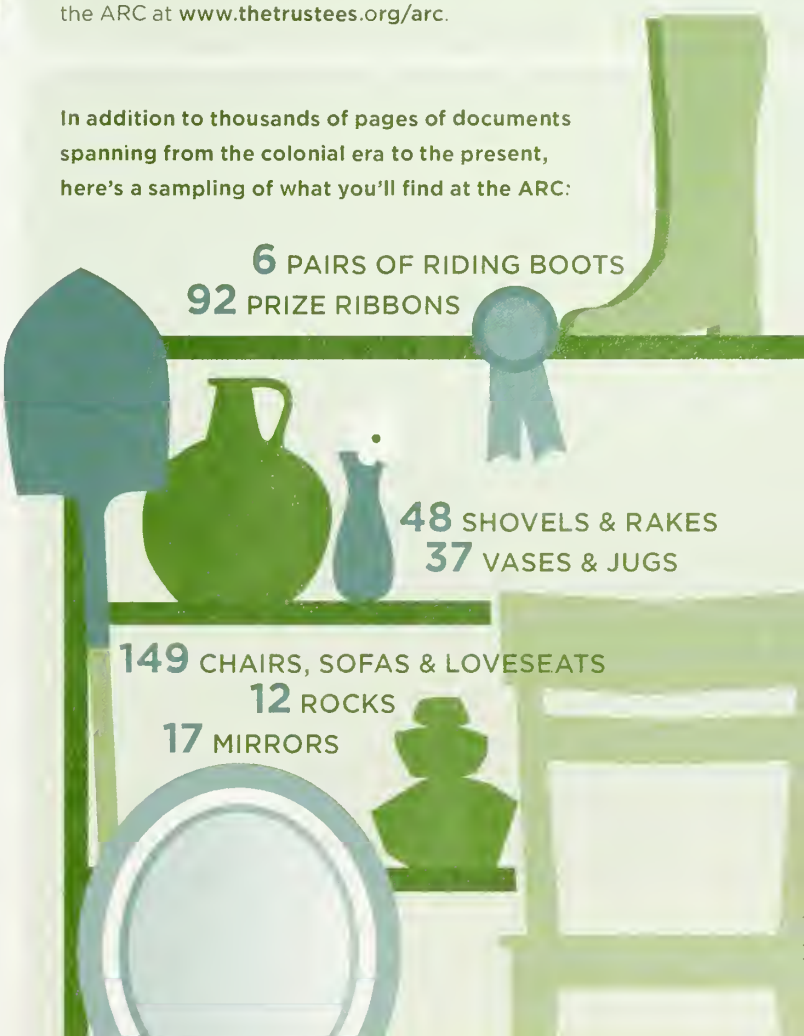
IN MASSACHUSETTS, you can find history under every rock and on every corner. From the tracks of dinosaurs and the settlements of Mohicans to the stone walls of colonial farmers, The Trustees care for and share an incredible array of places and things that illuminate who we were, who we are now, and who we will be.

But what you don't see at Trustees properties are the hundreds of thousands of objects, photographs, maps, plans, diaries, and more that we don't have room to show at our historic properties. Even The Trustees' most celebrated natural landscapes have intricate stories behind their donation, acquisition, and protection — and we have stacks of documents that attest to them all.

Now, we also have a place to organize and store them, thanks to 6,000 linear feet of high-density compact shelving newly installed at our Archives and Research Center (ARC) in Sharon (yes, that's more than a mile of shelving!). The ARC provides state-of-the-art storage for all of the objects and archives not on display at our properties — as well as the documents and other materials that tell the story of each Trustees property and conservation restriction. It's an extraordinary resource for staff, of course, but also for scholars and educators with an interest in everything from colonial dairy practices to the origins of the land trust movement itself.

Just what does a mile-plus stretch of shelving look like? Check out our time-lapse video of its installation and learn more about the ARC at **www.thetrustees.org/arc**.

In addition to thousands of pages of documents spanning from the colonial era to the present, here's a sampling of what you'll find at the ARC:





Common Ground

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT BY THE HIGHLAND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

BY JANE ROY BROWN

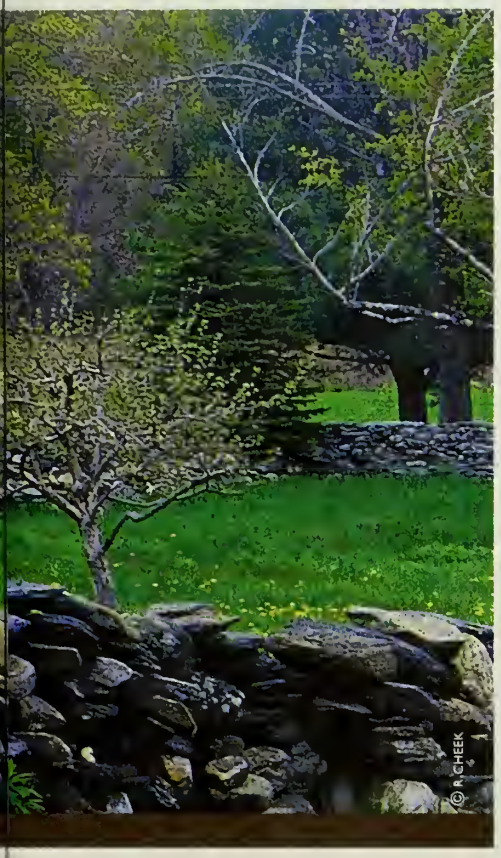
"In the Highlands, life is lived close to the land," observes Mollie Babize, a landscape designer and planner who has lived in this rural region for 24 years, the last 13 of them in Ashfield. Here, as in 37 other small towns dotting the Berkshire Highland Plateau between the Connecticut River Valley and the Hoosac Mountains, "many people still earn their living in traditional occupations — farming, plowing, mowing, sugaring, and cutting wood," she says.



Scattered throughout four counties, four watersheds, and four metropolitan areas, the 38 Highlands towns share a unique heritage shaped by the land since the 18th century. Today, they still share an unusually pristine water supply, the state's largest unbroken tracts of forest, and community life that revolves around the seasons: fall harvest festivals and church suppers, pancake breakfasts in maple-sugaring season at the cusp of spring, and open-air farmers' markets in summer.

But for the past decade, Massachusetts' most rural region has faced increasing change, as lifestyles and the economy have begun to shift away from the land. Sometimes, as in Ashfield, towns have had to pass measures protecting the right to farm, after some neighbors objected to the smells and sounds of agriculture. Babize, who volunteers on Ashfield's historical commission and zoning board of appeals, says preserving the distinct character of the Highlands is a growing challenge. "We're working to keep up with changing regulations on zoning, historic preservation, and land use," she says, "while making decisions that will affect the long-term future of our towns."

But, while land use remains so closely tied to the lifestyle and economy, such decisions often draw fire from all sides. Working in isolation compounds the stress of conflict. "These towns are run almost exclusively by volunteers, and they increasingly needed resources to help





Stone walls, barns, and scenic views are abundant in the Highlands and create a character unique within Massachusetts.

them navigate the challenges that come with growth," says The Trustees' Wendy Sweetser.

For the past six years, Sweetser directed the Highland Communities Initiative (HCI), formed in 2002 by a group of local residents in partnership with The Trustees. HCI's overall goal, she explains, was "to encourage and assist the Highlands towns in their own efforts to preserve rural heritage, while also recognizing their need for economic development." After conversations with community members to identify some key needs, HCI developed ways to support volunteers who were already serving on their town boards and committees. Over HCI's 10 years, Sweetser explains, "we prepared 17 publications on critical community conservation issues, offered workshops on how to draft by-laws, created conservation plans, and helped towns hire qualified professionals to carry them out." HCI also awarded small grants for related projects and worked with individual landowners to guide estate planning and other land-management decisions.

At workshops and other gatherings, the dialogue sparked when people got together – especially people doing similar work in different towns – proved to be as valuable as the educational content. "The connection with what other communities were doing helped us develop language to bring to our own town meeting," says Babize.

Not all of HCI's offerings were technical. Some, aimed at a broad audience of residents and visitors, highlighted the region's distinctive characteristics and traditions. For instance, two booklets, one on barns and one on houses, pointed out local architectural styles and their origins, raising awareness about how they contributed to the Highlands' unique sense of place.

The freedom to choose such diverse topics arose from HCI's origins. The initiative was the brainchild of the late Steffen Plehn, a Worthington resident and longtime environmental activist, and was guided by a steering committee of local residents. Plehn worked with The Trustees to obtain funding for the initiative, having chosen the organization to develop the concept because of their experience in land and community conservation, as well as cultural and historic preservation in western Massachusetts. "Steffen recognized the commonalities among these 38 towns, and he wanted to apply funding in a broader way than by acquiring land parcel by parcel," says Sweetser.

The small grants program reflected this broad scope. Of the 87 grants HCI awarded during the past 10 years – totaling $383,466 – about 20 went to zoning projects, and others helped support projects ranging from planning and arts to economic development, agriculture, and land protection. In Ashfield, for example, Babize served on an ad hoc committee to determine whether the town should purchase the privately owned land that served as the town common. "HCI gave us a grant to do a topographic survey of the site and identify possible sites for other town needs," she says. Based on the survey, the committee recommended – and voters approved – the purchase of the property.

Grants also helped historical commissions hire professionals to prepare nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, funded artists to paint murals illustrating local history and heritage, and supported volunteer campaigns in six towns to adopt the state's Community Preservation Act. The act allows towns to levy a surcharge on property taxes, which funds local affordable housing, historic preservation, and conservation projects. Four of the towns were successful – and, so far, the only Highland towns that have adopted the act.

HCI phased out in March 2012, having expended its initial funding and several additional grants for specific projects. "Work like this will never be finished, but HCI was not intended to become a permanent program. We feel good about what we accomplished," says Sweetser.

For The Trustees, "HCI broadened our sense of what it means to be part of a community – to recognize what's important to people locally and adapt our conservation strategy to those priorities," says Jocelyn Forbush, Trustees Regional Director for Western Massachusetts. This model, she says, has inspired The Trustees to try new approaches to community conservation elsewhere in the state.

To Babize, HCI's most valuable legacy was that it identified a region by its shared geography and heritage: "Political boundaries would have kept us separate, but that geographic identity allows us to celebrate this special place and the features that make it so, in hopes that other people will become more involved in protecting it."

Jane Roy Brown is a member of The Trustees who lives in the Highlands.



For the Love of the Land

BY MATT HEID

"Protecting this land was the best thing I ever did," Lucy Keefe says, standing among the wildflowers on her 21-acre woodland lot, gazing down towards the East Branch of the Westport River. "It protects the river, the unspoiled woods and wetlands, and the wildlife and wildflowers."

The Westport resident's gift did more, however, than just preserve a critical parcel of watershed land and a beloved landscape of personal discovery – it also helped The Trustees reach a milestone: protecting 20,000 acres through perpetual conservation restrictions.

Westport lies in the southeast corner of Massachusetts, tucked tight against the Rhode Island border and the dynamic waters of Buzzards Bay. The Westport River reaches inland from the seashore, quickly dividing into two broad, tidally influenced waterways. A few miles upriver, hidden in the woods along the eastern shore of the river's eastern branch, lies the former site of Camp Noquochoke, a Boy Scout camp from times gone by.

Camp Noquochoke welcomed young campers from 1921 to 1978; upon closing, it was divided into several large parcels and purchased by private landowners. Keefe moved to Westport from Boston in 1999 and lived on two of those parcels. It was a move that marked the beginning of a deeper journey into the natural world.

In the ensuing years, Keefe spent countless days exploring the wetlands and woods that surrounded her. "I traveled every inch of that land," she reflects. "It felt good. I felt much more connected to the land and to the world." It's a connection that continues to inspire her today, as evidenced by the numerous field guides that now cram her bookshelf. "There's always a new leaf or a new bloom," she muses. "Even the stone walls have stories. I realized the more you know, the more you realize what you don't know."

In 2009, Keefe moved to a small cottage closer to the town center. She retained one of her two parcels, however: a 21-acre swath of upland forest that once formed the core of

Camp Noquochoke. "After I moved, I went back all the time," she recounts, "but I also spent more time exploring elsewhere in town. And lo and behold I found there were all these properties in town protected by The Trustees and the Westport Land Conservation Trust."

In many ways, Westport is an epicenter for land conservation. Of the approximately 350 conservation restrictions held by The Trustees in Massachusetts, 36 of them are in Westport. "The town is very aware of the conservation value of the land here and supports its protection," notes Chris Detwiller, The Trustees' Community Conservation Specialist for Westport. "Land along the Westport River is just a fabulous resource to be protected for the people and wildlife – osprey, brook trout, and so many other species – that make this area home."

Since 2000, The Trustees have worked in partnership with the Westport Land Conservation Trust to protect threatened parcels of land. Some are acquired through outright purchase. Others are protected through conservation restrictions, where the landowner retains ownership of the property but sells or donates permanent restrictions on its development to ensure its long-term protection. Keefe's donation was doubly significant, not only helping The Trustees reach its 20,000-acre milestone but also marking the 2,000th acre the partners have protected together in Westport.

Keefe is thrilled by the prospect that others may discover the natural world as she has. "Once they do, they find their connection," she reflects. "They find their connection to nature and to protection of the Earth and of natural resources. And that can only be good for the world."

Matt Heid is a freelance writer whose work appears regularly in AMC Outdoors. *He is also the author of* AMC's Best Backpacking in New England *and maintains a blog about outdoor gear at www.equipped.outdoors.org*

20,000 & Counting!

A summer's day drive out to Crane Beach is one that's full of anticipation — of sun bathing, sand-castle building, and body surfing in the waves. It's also one of the most beautiful drives in Massachusetts. From Northgate Road, Argilla Road winds past a mile of woodlands dotted with homes before a shallow bend reveals the Crane Wildlife Refuge and its miles of honey-colored salt marsh. The commitment and foresight of the Crane family led them to donate the 2,100 acres that make up Crane Beach, the Wildlife Refuge, and Castle Hill to The Trustees 60 years ago. But in fact, the land along that entire two-mile-plus stretch of road to the Crane Beach gatehouse is also protected, thanks to dedicated homeowners who, by placing conservation restrictions (CR) on their land, have ensured that this spectacular stretch of coastline stays spectacular — forever.

The Trustees have been in the business of holding and monitoring CRs since the early 70s, accepting their first on property next to Rocky Narrows in Medfield. Since then more than 350 generous landowners have followed suit, retaining ownership of their property, but agreeing that it will never be developed. Their generosity adds up to 20,000 acres — a milestone reached in early 2012 and nearly as many acres as The Trustees directly own as reservations — making the organization the largest private holder of CR acres statewide. And, with 54 reservations buffered or connected by CR-restricted lands, this innovative conservation strategy assures more protection for The Trustees' special places, and more green space for all of us to enjoy.

Get more facts and figures, and learn more about our conservation restriction program: **thetrustees.org/ontheland**.

CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS BY THE NUMBERS

366
CRs Held by The Trustees

10
Current reservations that started out as CRs

90
Towns with Trustees CRs

PROTECTED BY CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

189
Vernal Pools

15,255
Acres of core habitat for rare & endangered species

5,800
Acres of farmland



BY GENEVIEVE RAJEWSKI

a new leaf







AT THE BERKELEY STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN IN BOSTON'S SOUTH END, Rebecca Laws mops her dewy brow as she weeds. She lives six blocks away, and it's her first year gardening at Berkeley Street. "I don't have much experience, but everything is doing very well," says Laws. "I'm growing tomatoes, spinach, kale, potatoes, peppers, and zucchini. It's very exciting."

On the opposite end of the garden – and spectrum – is Chant Lee. The petite, elderly Chinese-American woman has gardened at Berkeley Street for 20 years. She too grows her own vegetables, including Chinese beans, yams and bitter melons, which twine along a "roof" of trellising. "I eat everything in there," says Lee, gesturing at her plot, which spills greenery from all sides.

As one of Boston's largest community gardens, the Berkeley Garden has drawn residents from throughout the South End to enjoy its leafy goodness for decades. It's more than a source of food – it's an oasis of open space in one of the city's most densely populated neighborhoods. It's no wonder that Trustees affiliate Boston Natural Areas Network (BNAN) came forward when the South End/Lower Roxbury Open Space Land Trust needed help to ensure a future for this and 15 other gardens.

"The Land Trust properties represent nearly all the community gardens in the South End and Lower Roxbury," explains Valerie Burns, president of BNAN, the city's leading advocate and caretaker of urban open space. "They are where the neighborhoods not only grow a lot of their food but also where they get a good portion of their green space."

The South End's and Lower Roxbury's community gardens have a long history in Boston, where they've played a significant role in sowing community activism in addition to crops. Most trace their roots to the 1960s federal land-redevelopment program known as "Urban Renewal." As part of this effort to encourage new growth in major cities, many buildings were razed across the country. However, the funding developers needed to build on those urban properties didn't come as quickly as planned, and cities like Boston were left with an overwhelming number of vacant lots – especially in lower income neighborhoods.

> ...the South End and Lower Roxbury – which is remarkably diverse in terms of income, race, cultures, ages, and languages – meets in a neighborly, collective way over a common love of growing things.
>
> – VALERIE BURNS

"By the 1970s, South End and Lower Roxbury residents got tired of looking at weedy, vacant lots and started gardening on them," says Betsy Johnson, former president of

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Bobby Dyer and Mark Kuper tend to their plots at Worcester Street Garden in the South End. Many residents started gardening because they couldn't find the types of food they were used to eating and decided to grow it themselves.



The former Board of the South End and Lower Roxbury Open Space Land Trust. FRONT ROW, L-R: Carol Bonnar, Betsy Johnson, Maryellen Hassell, Sue Greene. BACK ROW, L-R: Willa Mae Brown, Arthur Cain, Josh Lakin, Bob Davis Wong, Ann McQueen, Joe Cambone, Ethel Hooper. For their dedication and foresight in ensuring the long-term care of the South End and Lower Roxbury Gardens, the Land Trust Board are our Conservationists of the Year.

the Land Trust board. "A number of these folks were people from other cultural backgrounds, whether it was China or the South, who couldn't find the types of food they were used to eating and wanted to grow it."

However, it wasn't until property values began to soar that the neighborhoods' residents realized that the community gardens needed a protector. They came together to form the Land Trust in 1991. Over the next two decades, the all-volunteer group grew to care for and manage a wide range of properties cultivated by more than 500 individuals and families. These range from the Berkeley Garden in the South End to the Frederick Douglass Peace Park, a half-acre derelict lot recently adopted and transformed into an urban oasis and which now hosts a weekly farmers market, and the Bessie Barnes Community Garden in Lower Roxbury, which has raised beds that allow 18 families to grow some 3,300 pounds of fresh produce annually.

"Eventually we came to the realization that relying solely on volunteers to maintain so many critical properties was just not sustainable," says Johnson.

The group decided that a merger or partnership was the right way to go, and BNAN quickly emerged as its first choice. "As they already own 43 community gardens, they're very experienced in garden infrastructure, programming, and education issues," explains Johnson. In addition, "many of our properties have [cumbersome] deed restrictions related to their ancient history with urban renewal. BNAN was able to secure deeds from the city with the only restriction being that they remain community gardens forever. And its association with The Trustees of Reservations gives it the ability to fundraise for an endowment that will provide a dedicated staff person for our properties."

The merger has effectively dissolved the Land Trust and, through renegotiation of the Land Trust's deeds, allowed BNAN to own and now protect, manage, and improve these properties in perpetuity.

Burns notes that BNAN was eager to pick up and embrace the Land Trust's mission, particularly given how its community gardens serve as common ground between residents of the neighborhood's public and assisted housing and its upscale brownstones.

"The changes that have occurred in the South End and Lower Roxbury since the 1970s have been remarkable. Their community gardens now occupy land that has some of the highest property values in the city," says Burns. "But those same places are where the neighborhoods – which are remarkably diverse in terms of income, race, cultures, ages, and languages – meet in a collective way over a common love of growing things."

That certainly seems to be the case at Berkeley Street on this summer evening. During this particular biweekly community cleanup night, when plot owners turn out to care for the shared spaces, all kinds of people occupy the garden in harmony. A tattooed young man wrestles a cranky gate back into working order. A white-bearded gentleman pushes a wheelbarrow full of gravel for smoothing the public paths. Two children play on a patch of grass under the watchful gaze of their mother and grandmother, who weed nearby.

As she fills a public water basin with a hose, Lee remarks that she has had two different homes nearby over the last two decades. But she jokes that she actually lives at her plot. "I come every day," Lee says. "It's beautiful here."

Genevieve Rajewski covers animal issues, food, and agriculture for publications such as The Boston Globe *and* Edible Boston. *Read more at genevieverajewski.com*



GOOD DEEDS

Over his five terms in office Mayor Thomas Menino [pictured with Trustees Chair David Croll, BNAN President Valerie Burns, and Trustees President Barbara Erickson] has been a champion for community gardens, parks, green space, and local food. He played a critical role in securing the South End and Lower Roxbury gardens' future by ensuring that the properties' complex deeds would now carry only one restriction — to remain open space for community gardens forever.

Mayor Menino has been a leader and innovator in working to create a greener Boston, spearheading the creation of the city's climate action plan, promoting alternative energy and green buildings, creating new parklands, protecting urban wilds, and launching urban agriculture. For his inspiring leadership, The Trustees honor Mayor Menino with the 2012 Charles Eliot Award.



Monson Man of the Mountain

BY JEANNE O'ROURKE

DENIS DUQUETTE, a founding member of the Peaked Mountain Property Committee and current co-chair, is the go-to guy to get things done in Monson. His profession? Project Coordinator for Chicopee's Titan Roofing. His passion? Volunteering for people and places in need. "From helping organize our signature Peaked Mountain Birthday Run, to fundraising, to clearing trails, he's unbelievable," says Josh Knox, Trustees Superintendent for Holyoke & the Quaboag Valley. "In any way you could imagine him going above and beyond with his time and talent, he does it." We talked with Denis, our 2012 Volunteer of the Year, about trails, trash, and The Trustees.

What brought you to Peaked Mountain?
I hiked Peaked way back before I even knew it was Peaked. I had no idea then that it was owned by folks in town, before The Trustees made it an official reservation. My kids and I stumbled on it when we were hiking some nearby trails, and we went to the top the steep way, on the other side of the mountain. We didn't know there were easy trails on the side where the reservation is now!

How did you get involved with The Trustees?
When The Trustees were fundraising for the reservation, I gave a donation. Shortly thereafter, I received a call from The Trustees to join the Property Committee. I love the outdoors, and I sit at a desk for work, so this lets me spend time outdoors, making it a perfect match for me.

Who are the Property Committee, and what do you do?
When I started out, we only had six or seven people on our committee. Today, we have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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about 24, including committee members and trail stewards. We meet to discuss key projects — our annual Birthday Trail Run, installing trail signage, trail maintenance, etc. — then we organize workdays to get it all done. Often, several stewards simply show up unannounced and clear fallen trees, mow grass, or pull invasives. We have a very committed group.

Did you always feel a strong pull to the land?
My father instilled that in me — he was an avid outdoorsman. Every Sunday, we'd always go for a family hike — sometimes to New Hampshire, or the Quabbin, or to the Highland Hills, somewhere different every week. I still love to hike and camp and visit State Forests and National Parks.

Is Peaked your only volunteer gig?
You could say I'm a volunteer-a-holic. I'm on the board and the membership chair at the Monson Historical Society, Treasurer of the Monson Garden Club, and I help out at the Senior Center and Monson Library whenever they have a small problem. This past year, I have been busy helping people affected by the June 2011 tornado that struck Monson. Oh, and in my spare time, a fellow Monson resident and I joined forces against litter in town. We choose a day and a street, and just start picking up trash until it's clean. It gives me much satisfaction to get something done, even if it's the simplest thing.

What's next?
I have three big goals. One, to visit all The Trustees' reservations. I've started doing that with my wife — we take a photo by the entrance sign to document it officially. I've visited about 15 so far, so I have a long way to go! Second, to visit as many National Parks as possible. And third, my wife and I have been updating our house to turn it into a bed and breakfast. But, the tornado that hit Monson a year ago in June and the freak snowstorm in western Massachusetts last October put a hold on a lot of things.

Jeanne O'Rourke is Associate Director for Marketing & Communications for The Trustees.

Of Beetles & Buckthorn:

PARTNERING UP TO BATTLE INVASIVES

The Trustees talk a lot about invasives — those non-native plants and insects that might look pretty on the surface, but are really a scourge to the health of our landscapes. They spread rapidly and outcompete our native species for precious resources, threatening biodiversity and changing the landscapes we love. And, with a shifting climate potentially bringing in a whole new suite of species from warmer climes, the job of controlling and eradicating invasives is more urgent and vital than ever before.

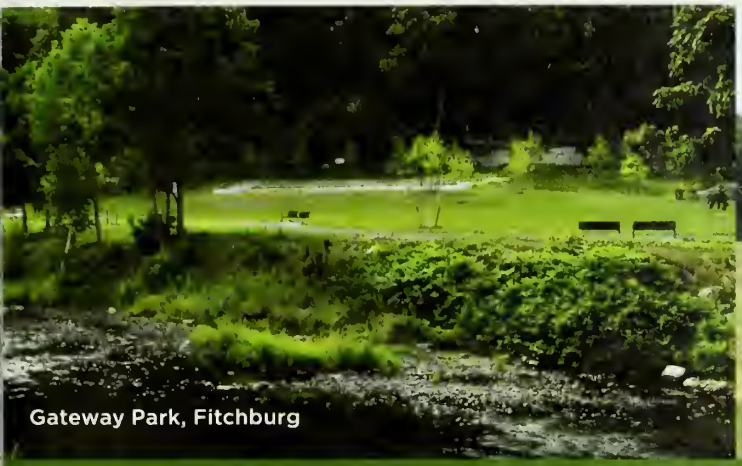
The problem with controlling these pesky plants and insects, though, is that it requires the awareness, alertness, and effort of whole communities of people, not just single individuals or projects on specific properties. Insects and seeds don't see property lines (amazingly!) so it takes us all working together to keep our backyard habitats strong.

That's why The Trustees have joined two efforts in which people and partners are pooling resources and brain power to manage these harmful species. The Westfield River Watershed Invasive Species Partnership (WISP) brings together public and private partners to promote cooperative efforts within the watershed, while SuAsCo CISMA does the same for the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord rivers watershed. By sharing information and expertise, the groups hope to step up region-wide efforts to educate the public and enlist support.

Of The Trustees' own properties, 50 have been identified as a priority for invasives control. Through early detection, The Trustees are making progress in stopping some species from taking root, while at other reservations, work focuses on limiting their impact. This work is powered by staff and volunteers, who regularly pull on thick gloves to clip, chop, cut, and mow with gusto. But, with more than 60 current species of invasive plants identified in Massachusetts — with more on the way — there's still a lot of work to do.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

1. **Download the Outsmart Invasives app at: masswoods.net/outsmart.**
2. **Get to know the invasives that might be hiding in your own backyard at: www.thetrustees.org/invasives.**
3. **Check out WISP's Landowner's Guide to Invasive Plant Management at: www.thetrustees.org/wisp.**
4. **Volunteer to help combat invasives at Trustees reservations. Visit www.thetrustees.org/volunteer.**
5. **Visit our partners at WISP and CISMA at: www.westfieldriver.org and www.cisma-suasco.org.**



Gateway Park, Fitchburg



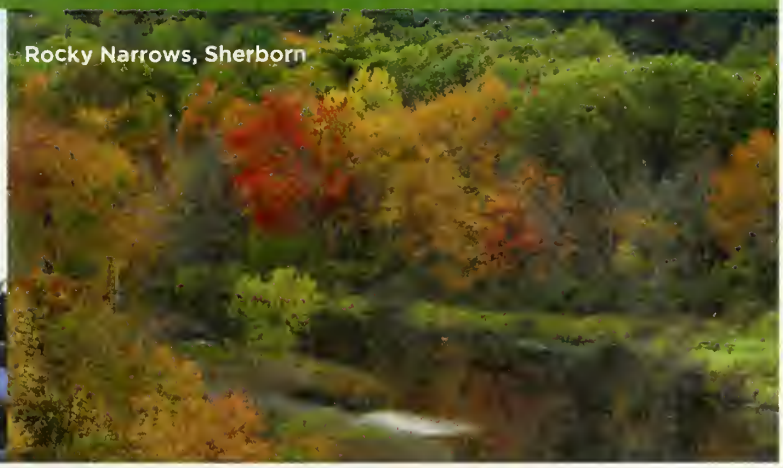
Howe Farm, Westport

LAND CONSERVATION

In the past year, The Trustees protected, or helped protect, 20 properties — nearly 500 acres of meadows, forests, farmyards, and wetlands — in neighborhoods across the Commonwealth.



Silverbrook Farm, Acushnet



Rocky Narrows, Sherborn

LAND ACQUISITIONS (Present & Future Reservations)

PROJECT | CITY/TOWN ACREAGE | PARTNERS/DONORS*	DESCRIPTION
Ashintully Gardens | Tyringham 7 Acres | Katharine McLennan*	Katharine McLennan released her final remaining life estate in the Ashintully Gardens reservation. Mrs. McLennan and her late husband, John, have made a series of generous gifts of land to The Trustees over several decades, which together comprise Ashintully and the McLennan Reservation in Tyringham. See page 46 to learn more.
Rocky Narrows | Sherborn | 25.5 Acres George Lewis*; River Cottage LLC*; 172 Realty Trust*	The Lewis family donated five parcels along the banks of the winding Charles River — the latest in a series of generous gifts of land and conservation restrictions — that add to the Rocky Narrows Reservation, linking portions of the reservation and ensuring public access along the Charles River.

CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS (CR)

PROJECT | CITY/TOWN ACREAGE | PARTNERS/DONORS*	DESCRIPTION
Browne Parcels | Medfield 13.5 Acres | Stephen and Lynn Browne*	Generous donation of CRs on two parcels adds to an existing CR held by The Trustees and represents the culmination of many years of work by the Brownes to increase the protection of this scenic and historic neighborhood in Medfield.
Charlescote Farm Sherborn | 29.3 Acres Trustees of Charlescote Farm*	The Willis family donated a CR on a portion of this beautiful working farm, adding to a 41-acre existing CR and to hundreds of additional acres of adjacent conservation land.
Gateway Park | Fitchburg | 6.7 Acres North County Land Trust; Fidelity Bank*	Working with Fidelity Bank and the Commonwealth's Division of Conservation Services, we secured the protection of a picturesque wooded knoll, which more than doubles the size of Fitchburg's new Gateway Park and offers scenic views of the park and the North Nashua River.
Keefe Property | Westport 20.7 Acres | Lucy Keefe*	With more than eight acres of Critical Natural Landscape (as identified by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program), this scenic woodland property, located within the watershed of the Westport River's East Branch, is the former home of Camp Noquochoke, a well-known Boy Scout camp.
Moraine Farm | Beverly | 0.2 Acre Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust	This trail easement protects future walking access by Moraine Farm stakeholders and visitors to Dodge Street in North Beverly via a parcel of land owned by Hannah Village apartments.
Sherden Property | Westport 11.4 Acres | William and Molly Sherden*	Protection of this scenic parcel expands the Westport Land Conservation Trust's 76-acre Old Harbor Wildlife Refuge. The generous donors also granted a trail easement.
Sill Property | Medfield 5.2 Acres | The Valerie Sill Group LLC*	This wooded parcel, which abuts an existing CR held by The Trustees, enlarges an area of woodlands bordering protected land in this conservation-minded community.



CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT) is the transactional affiliate of The Trustees of Reservations.

PROJECT | CITY/TOWN ACREAGE | PARTNERS/DONORS*	DESCRIPTION
Avila Parcels | Seekonk | 0.5 Acre Seekonk Land Conservation Trust (SLCT); R.J. Avila Associates*	This gift of upland forest and wetlands along the Runnins River is located in a priority protection area for the SLCT and the Town of Seekonk, and is near other protected land.
Lanzisera Estate Fall River | 80 Acres Department of Conservation & Recreation	We assisted the state with an addition of 80 wooded acres to the adjacent Freetown-Fall River State Forest, located within the 13,600-acre Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve.
Edwards Property | Westport | 26.4 Acres Westport Land Conservation Trust; Dept. of Conservation & Recreation; Edwards Family Westport River Nominee Trust*	The Edwards family donated a CR on this stunning property, which features 1,700 feet of frontage on the Westport River's East Branch and is classified as Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape. It adds to more than 3,800 acres of protected land in the South Coast town.
Howe Farm | Westport | 35.4 Acres Westport Land Conservation Trust; Department of Agricultural Resources; Howe Family Farm LLC	Protection of this beautiful working farm with an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) fills in a critical missing piece of a 500+-acre block of protected farmland. It also brings the "Slocum's River to Westport River Greenway" closer to completion with a trail easement over part of the farm that provides breathtaking views of the Westport River's East Branch.
J&A Realty Lot | Shirley | 17 Acres MLCT; Town of Shirley; J&A Realty Trust	With extensive hiking and horseback riding trails, winding eskers, vernal pools, and priority wildlife habitat, this wooded property abuts hundreds of acres of protected land in Shirley and Lunenburg, close by our recently acquired Farandnear reservation.
Kirby Property | Westport | 22.5 Acres Westport Land Conservation Trust; Karen and Randall Kirby*	This entire property, comprised of woodlands and forested wetlands, is classified as critical habitat for state-listed species.
Nolet Property | Mendon | 27 Acres Town of Mendon; Nolet Family	A portion of these picturesque woodlands and fields was added to our Cormier Woods reservation in Uxbridge, with the remainder protected with a CR and added to the Town of Mendon's Meadow Brook Woods conservation area.
Oscar Palmer Farm | Westport 29.1 Acres | MLCT; Westport Land Conservation Trust (WLCT); Town of Westport	The Trustees, WLCT, and the Town of Westport partnered to protect this historic and scenic 29-acre farm with a CR on the farmland and an Historic Preservation Restriction on the farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings. The farm was sold to a local farmer who is restoring the historic buildings and re-establishing agriculture.
Silverbrook Farm | Acushnet | 89 Acres Town of Acushnet; Department of Agricultural Resources	Protected by timely intervention by MLCT and the State Agricultural Preservation Program, this active and popular working farm runs a CSA and farm store and offers seasonal activities. It is the town's first APR.
Swansea Realty Corp. Property Fall River | 6 Acres Dept. of Conservation & Recreation; MLCT	Adjacent to our Copicut Woods reservation and part of the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve, this key parcel includes a large meadow, a rare type of habitat in the 13,600-acre Bioreserve.
Tashjian Property | Westport | 1.3 Acres Westport Land Conservation Trust; Carol Tashjian*	This wooded parcel along Huldah's Creek, a tributary of the Westport River, connects two sections of previously protected land, creating a 100-acre corridor of conservation land.

Financial Report

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Consistent with the overall economy, Fiscal 2012 proved to be another challenging year for our organization. While great summer weather helped deliver strong visitation and solid property revenues, overall fundraising and revenue increases could not keep pace with the increases in spending. Management recognized this prospective imbalance early on and put in place numerous cost-saving measures to compensate. However, we still faced a forecasted loss, and we undertook a thoughtful and thorough analysis of all budgeted spending in order to leverage our investment and other income opportunities to their fullest.

What was achieved was a much deeper understanding of our revenue and cost structure, tools we will use in the years to come. In Fiscal 2013, we have moved forward with a two-pronged plan: careful and cautious management of our finances with a continued focus on revenue enhancement opportunities. For example, one initiative in which we are investing in Fiscal 2013 is a new strategic plan for our Membership Program, which Management and the Board believe will create consistent increased value in the years to come.

The volatile stock market continued throughout Fiscal 2012 and impacted the value of our endowment, which provided $6.18 million of operating revenue in Fiscal 2012. Our spending rate is determined by applying a percentage rate (5.25% and 5% for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2010, respectively) to the market value of the trailing 12 quarters' results, an approach that is designed to have a smoothing effect on market fluctuations. Therefore, the depressed market valuations in recent years are still negatively influencing our endowment support calculation. The Investment Committee continues to skillfully manage the endowment, however the fiscal-year-end market value declined slightly to $124 million as of March 31, 2012.

All this said, the strengths of The Trustees are many. We have an enviable record of carefully managing our resources; we have a strong and diversified financial base, with a long history of financial stability; we have the generosity of our Board of Directors and supporters, all of which contribute to a solid foundation for our future; and, finally, we have a dedicated and talented staff of professionals, committed to our mission and our strategic initiatives. These strengths will allow all of us, staff and Board alike, to continue the important work of our shared strategic initiatives as we move forward.

In this my first year as Treasurer, my thanks go out to my Board colleagues, the staff, and, in particular, John McCrae, The Trustees' CFO, for assisting me in my new role. I know we are up for the challenges ahead and I look forward to writing you next year with details of our progress.



Amy L. Auerbach
Treasurer



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OPERATING RESULTS

IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

INCOME	FY 2012	FY 2011	CHANGE	%
Operating Support from Endowment	$6,183	$6,087	$96	2%
Property & Other Revenue	6,312	6,023	289	5%
Membership	3,015	2,999	16	1%
Contributions	3,566	3,106	460	15%
Grants & Internal Transfers	2,082	1,822	260	14%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE & SUPPORT	$21,158	$20,037	$1,121	6%

EXPENSES	FY 2012	FY 2011	CHANGE	%
PROGRAM SERVICES:				
Property & Resource Stewardship	$9,588	$9,378	$210	2%
Land & Community Conservation	1,833	1,824	9	—
Agriculture & Environment	1,498	1,232	266	22%
Visitor Engagement & Education	1,024	1,032	(8)	(1%)
Urban Initiatives	1,475	996	479	48%
Historic Resources	688	714	(26)	(4%)
Member Services	179	254	(75)	(30%)
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	**$16,285**	**$15,430**	**855**	**6%**
SUPPORT SERVICES:				
Advancement				
Fundraising	$1,506	$1,467	$39	3%
Membership	843	681	162	24%
Communications & Marketing	688	494	194	39%
General & Administrative	2,130	1,730	400	23%
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	**5,167**	**4,372**	**795**	**18%**
TOTAL EXPENSES	$21,452	$19,802	$1,650	8%
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	($294)	$235	($529)	(225%)

INVESTMENTS, MARKET VALUE

IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

	FY 2012	FY 2011
Beginning Balance	$125,859	$116,200
Contributions/Other Changes, Net	1,793	1,677
Spending Rate Transfer	(6,222)	(6,087)
Net Unrealized/Realized Gains (Losses)	2,451	14,069
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	$123,881	$125,859

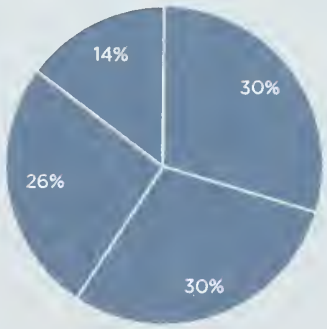
GIFT INCOME

IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

	FY 2012		FY 2011	
	AMOUNT	DONORS	AMOUNT	DONORS
Contributions	$3,566	7,034	$3,106	5,935
Membership	3,015	36,217	2,999	38,117
Endowment	1,783	512	1,077	257
Gifts & Pledges for Special Purposes	3,747	706	3,735	659
TOTAL GIFTS	$12,111	44,469	$10,917	44,968

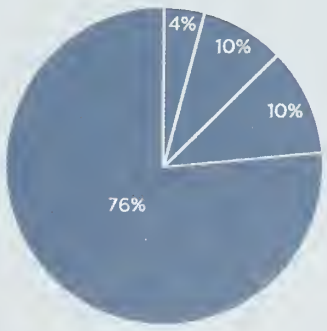
FISCAL 2012 INCOME

Operating Support from Endowment	30%
Property & Other Revenue	30%
Contributions & Restricted Funds	26%
Membership	14%



FISCAL 2012 EXPENSES

Program Services	76%
Advancement	10%
General & Administrative	10%
Membership	4%





SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2012

Things to Do This Fall

For details on all of our events and volunteer opportunities – and to sign up for our monthly e-mail – visit www.thetrustees.org.

BERKSHIRES

HOUSE & GARDEN TOURS

Naumkeag Guided Garden Tours
Thursdays, through September 20 | 11AM & 1PM
Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413.298.3239 x3013 or 413.298.8138
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult $15; Child (age 12 and under) FREE.

Upstairs, Downstairs: Servant Life at a Gilded Age Mansion
Sunday, October 14 | 12NOON & 2PM
Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413.298.3239 x3013 or 413.298.8138
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $15.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Fall Blooming Crocus Celebration
Saturday & Sunday, September 15 & 16 | 10AM–5PM
Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413.298.3239 x3013 or 413.298.8138
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $15.

The Buzz about Native Pollinators
Saturday, September 15 | 10AM–12NOON
Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413.229.8600
Members: $4; Family $12. Nonmembers: $6; Family $15.

Fall Foliage Canoe Trips
Sundays, September 16, 30; October 21, 28 | 9AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413.229.8600
Members: Adult $24; Child (age 10–16) $12.
Nonmembers: Adult $30; Child (age 10–16) $15.

Field Farm Folly Guided Hikes
Saturday, September 22 | 12NOON & 1PM
Field Farm, Williamstown 413.458.3135
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

Hurlburt's Hill Hawk Watch & Picnic
Saturday, October 6 | 10AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413.229.8600
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult $15; Child $1.

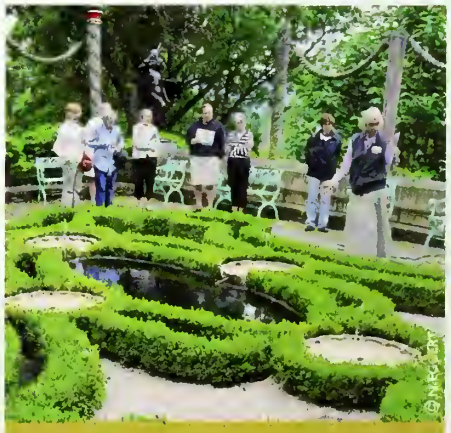
People of the Waters That Are Never Still: Guided Canoe Trip
Monday, October 8 | 9AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413.229.8600
Members: Adult $24; Child (age 10–16) $12.
Nonmembers: Adult $30; Child (age 10–16) $15.

Highland Boreal Forest Ghost Town Hike
Saturday, October 13 | 10AM–1PM
Notchview, Windsor 413.532.1631 x10
Members and Windsor residents: FREE.
Nonmembers: $5.

Stargazing with Arunah Hill
Saturdays, October 20, November 10 | Begins at Dusk
Notchview, Windsor 413.532.1631 x10
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Boreal Forest Winter Ecology Trek
Saturday, December 15 | 10AM–1PM
Notchview, Windsor 413.532.1631 x10
Members and Windsor residents: FREE.
Nonmembers: $5.

Bill Koch Ski League
Winter Sundays, starting on first snowy Sunday | 2–4PM
Notchview, Windsor 413.684.0148
Call or e-mail notchview@ttor.org for information.



Autumn Berkshires Community Day
A day of tours, activities, and other fun that's free for Berkshires residents.
Monday, September 17 | 10AM–5PM
Naumkeag, Stockbridge
413.298.3239 x3013 or 413.298.8138
Members & Berkshires residents: FREE.

PIONEER VALLEY

Greenhouse Greens: Grow Your Own
Sunday, September 16 | 10AM–12NOON
Land of Providence, Holyoke 413.532.1631 x10
Members & Holyoke residents: $5.
Nonmembers: $10.

Bryant Poetry Series
Sunday, October 14 | 2:30PM
William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummington 413.532.1631 x10
Members & Nonmembers: $7 suggested donation.

7th Annual Birthday Trail Race & Mountain Fun Walk
Sunday, October 14 | 10AM–1:30PM
Peaked Mountain, Monson 413.532.1631 x14
Race entry fee: $20 (by September 30; includes t-shirt); $25 (day of). Walk entry fee: $15 (by September 30; includes t-shirt); $5 (day of).

Community Potlucks & Discussions
Saving Money, Saving Energy
Thursday, October 15 | 6PM

Nature Sightings: Who, Where, & Why?
Sunday, November 18 | 6PM

Bullitt Reservation, Ashfield 413.628.4485
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

In-Depth Nature Photography
Saturdays, October 20 & 27
9AM–5PM (Day 1), 9AM–12NOON (Day 2)
Bullitt Reservation, Ashfield 413.628.4485
Please pre-register. Two sessions: Members: $60. Nonmembers: $75.



Native Seeds, Native Stories
Learn how to collect and propagate seeds of native trees and plants in this hands-on workshop.
Saturday, October 13 | 10AM–12NOON
Land of Providence, Holyoke
413.532.1631 x10
Members: $3. Nonmembers: $5.

CENTRAL REGION

Fall Harvest Celebration
Saturday, October 6 | 10AM–2PM
Doyle Community Park & Center, Leominster
978.840.4446 x1920
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Tully Triathlon
Saturday, October 13
Tully Lake Campground, Royalston 978.248.9455
Visit thetrustees.org/tullytriathlon for more details and to register.

Annual Rock House Dinner & Auction
Friday, November 2 | 5:30–7:30PM
Salem Cross Inn, West Brookfield 413.532.1631 x14
Members & Nonmembers: $30.

GREATER BOSTON

Including Boston Natural Areas Network (BNAN)
www.bostonnatural.org

Powisset Farm Stand
Tuesdays, through October | 1:30–6:30PM
Powisset Farm, Dover 508.785.0339

Outdoor Story Hour at Weir River Farm
Wednesdays, through September | 10–11AM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $3.

Open Barnyard at Weir River Farm
Saturdays, through October | 10AM–2PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $3.

History & Hidden Gems: A Bike Tour of the Fenway & Mission Hill
Saturday, September 15 | 10AM
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
Meeting location provided upon registration.
Pre-registration required. FREE.

Canning Your Harvest & Extending the Gardening Season
Saturday, September 29 | 10AM–12NOON
Eleanor Cabot Bradley Estate, Canton
617.259.7836
Members: $5. Nonmembers: $10.



VOLUNTEER

When you volunteer with The Trustees, you're not only helping us care for special places across the state, you're making a difference to your community and to your neighbors. So get out and get involved.

BERKSHIRES

Notchview Tuesday Trail Team
Second & Fourth Sundays, through November | 9AM–1:30PM
Notchview, Windsor 413.684.0148

Cobble Eco-Volunteers
Thursdays, through October | 9AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413.229.8600

Notchview Trail Work Day
Saturdays, October 20, November 17
9AM–12:30PM
Notchview, Windsor 413.684.0148

PIONEER VALLEY

Bear Swamp Trail Work Day
Saturday, September 15 | 9AM–12NOON
Bear Swamp, Ashfield 413.532.1631 x10

GREATER BOSTON

Friends in the Fields
Saturdays, through September | 1:30–5PM
Powisset Farm, Dover 508.785.0339

Down and Dirty Trail Project
Saturday, October 13 | 9AM–3PM
Charles River Valley properties 508.785.0339

NORTHEAST

Fall Volunteer Hours for the Flower Field at Long Hill
Thursdays, through November 15 | 9–11AM
Long Hill, Beverly 978.921.1944 x 1875

Wednesdays in the Garden
Wednesdays, through October 24 | 9AM–12NOON
Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover
978.682.3580

Cape Ann Adult Work Crew
Saturdays, September 29, October 27, November 24 | 9AM–12NOON
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester 978.281.8400



FALL FARM & HARVEST FESTIVALS

Family Farm Day
Sunday, September 16 | 10AM–3PM
Appleton Farms, Ipswich 978.356.5728
Members: $20/car. Nonmembers: $25/car.

Moraine Farm Open House
Saturday, September 29 | 10AM–3PM
Moraine Farm, Beverly 978.969.1738
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Powisset Farm Fall Festival
Sunday, September 30 | 10AM–3PM
Powisset Farm, Dover 508.785.0339
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Weir River Farm Fall Festival
Saturday, October 13 | 10AM–2PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
Members: Adult $5; Child FREE.
Nonmembers: Adult $8; Child FREE.

Fall Harvest Celebration
Saturday, October 6 | 10AM–2PM
Doyle Community Park & Center, Leominster
978.840.4446 x1920
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Harvest Festival & Perennial Divide
Saturday, October 13 | 10AM–2PM
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan
FREE.

Harvest Festival
Saturday, October 20 | 12NOON–4PM
Westport Town Farm, Westport
Members & Nonmembers: FREE (optional donation).

Finding Health in the Garden
Saturday, September 29 | 10AM–12NOON
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan
Pre-registration required. FREE.

Soil & Composting
Fall Soil Care
Saturday, October 6 | 10AM–12NOON

The Pumpkin Drop!
Saturday, November 3 | 10AM–12NOON

Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan
Pre-registration required. FREE.

What to Do with Friends & Family: Columbus Day Weekend Open House at the Old Manse
Sunday & Monday, October 7 & 8 | 1–4PM
Old Manse, Concord 978.369.3909
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Fall Foliage Foray
Saturday, October 20 | 10–11:30AM
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
Cedar Grove Cemetery, 920 Adams St.
Dorchester. Pre-registration required. FREE.

Pumpkins in the Park
Saturday, October 27 | 5:30–7PM
Francis William Bird Park, East Walpole
508.668.6136
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Why Local Food? Your Choices Matter
Saturday, November 3 | 10–11:30AM
Eleanor Cabot Bradley Estate, Canton
617.259.7836
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

The Garden Tool Care Clinic
Saturday, November 10 | 10–11:30AM
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan
Pre-registration required. FREE.

What to Do with Friends & Family: Historic Thanksgivings at The Old Manse
Sunday, November 18 | 1PM & 3PM
Old Manse, Concord 978.369.3909
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $8.

Raise the Wreath
Sunday, December 9 | 2–4PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.4796
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

NORTHEAST REGION

Pick-Your-Own Flowers at the Flower Fields at Stevens-Coolidge Place
Fridays & Saturdays,
through mid-October | 10:30AM–6PM
Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover
978.682.3580
Members & Nonmembers: $3/child-size bouquet, $7/adult-size bouquet.

Moraine Farm Open House
Saturday, September 29 | 10AM–3PM
Moraine Farm, Beverly 978.969.1738
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Life on a Saltwater Farm: Paine House Tours for 17th-Century Saturdays
Saturday, October 6 | 11AM–3PM
Greenwood Farm, Ipswich 978.356.4351 x4049
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult $8; Child (12 and under) FREE.

Candlelight Stroll & Paine House Tour
Thursday, November 15 | 6–8PM
Greenwood Farm, Ipswich 978.356.4351 x4049
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

LONG HILL
Beverly

Please pre-register for workshops at www.thetrustees.org/longhill, 978.921.1944 x1825, bogrady@ttor.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

Member Day in the Flower Fields
Saturdays, September 15 & 22 | 10AM–5PM
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $3/child-size bouquet , $7/adult-size bouquet.

Beyond the Gardens: Ellery Sedgwick's Literary Legacy Reception
Friday, October 5 | 7–8:30PM
Members: $10. Nonmembers: $15.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Pick-Your-Own Flowers at the Flower Field at Long Hill
Thursdays–Saturdays, through mid-October
Thursdays 3–5PM, Fridays 12NOON–5PM, Saturdays 10AM–5PM
Members & Nonmembers: $3/child-size bouquet, $7/adult-size bouquet.

Raising Chickens in Your Backyard
Saturday, October 13 | 2–3:30PM
Please pre-register. Members: $10.
Nonmembers: $15.

CAPE ANN

Essex, Gloucester, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Marblehead & Rockport

978.281.8400, www.thetrustees.org/capeann, capeann@ttor.org

Discovery Center at Ravenswood Park

481 Western Avenue, Gloucester
Weekends & Holiday Mondays | 10AM–3PM
Hands-on activities, a Discovery Desk, and an Investigation Station await! Borrow a Discovery Detective Pack and explore the park. Group tours/programs available by request.

Basics of Fall Birding

Sundays, September 16, October 21, November 18 | 8–10AM
Halibut Point Reservation, Rockport & Coolidge Reservation, Manchester-by-the-Sea
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Cape Ann Pedal Power! Bicycle Tour

Sunday, September 23 | 9AM–1PM
Halibut Point Reservation, Rockport
Members: $30. Nonmembers: $50.
Recommended for ages 12 and up.

Forage for Mushrooms

Sunday, September 30 | 1:30–3:30PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Members: $5. Nonmembers: $10.

Meet the Ravenswood Hermit

Sunday, September 30 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Pre-registration requested. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

Ravenswood Trail Race

Sunday, October 14 | 9AM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Visit thetrustees.org for details.

Wilderness to Special Place

Sundays, October 14 & November 11 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

Mount Ann Forest Frolic

Sunday, October 14 | 1–3PM
Mount Ann Park, Gloucester
Space limited; pre-registration required.
Members: $8. Nonmembers: $10.

Tolkien Walk in the Woods

Sunday, October 21 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult $5; Child FREE.

Great Magnolia Swamp Hike

Saturday, October 27 | 12NOON–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Members: $5. Nonmembers: $10.

ExSKULLent Adventures Family Fest!

Sunday, October 28 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

Ravenswood Rocks!

Sunday, November 4 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Pre-registration required. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

Sweetbay Swamp Quest Fest!

Saturday, November 10 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Solstice Stroll

Saturday, December 15 | 4–6PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
Pre-registration required. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: $5.

Greening of the Great House: A Winter Festival

Celebrate the magic of winter as the Great House on Castle Hill is festively decorated by area florists and designers! Enjoy live music, a dance performance, a children's "Eye Spy," refreshments, and more.

Friday, November 30 | 5–9PM
Saturday, December 1 | 12NOON–6PM
Sunday, December 2 | 12NOON–4PM
Castle Hill 978.356.4351
Members: Adult $10; Child $5.
Nonmembers: Adult $15; Child $8.
Ipswich residents: $5 with proof of residency.





VOLUNTEER

SOUTHEAST

Westport Town Farm Community Garden Volunteer Days

Saturdays, through October | 9AM–12NOON
Westport Town Farm, Westport 508.636.5780

Cedar Swamp Volunteer Day

Saturday, October 27 | 9AM–12NOON
Copicut Woods, Fall River 508.636.4693 x13

Stonewall Workshop

Saturday, November 3 | 9AM–12NOON
Cornell Farm, South Dartmouth
Members only.

THE CRANE ESTATE

Ipswich

For information regarding tours, events, and programs at Castle Hill, Crane Beach, or Crane Wildlife Refuge, please visit www.thetrustees.org or call 978.356.4351.

HOUSE & LANDSCAPE TOURS

The Great House: Revealed

1-hour tours, starting every half hour
Wednesdays & Thursdays, through October 13
10AM–4PM (Last tour at 3PM)
Fridays & Saturdays, through October 13
10AM–2PM (Last tour at 1PM)
Castle Hill
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult $12; Child (age 12 and under) FREE. Combined Great House & Estate tour admission: Nonmembers $18.

Castle Hill Estate Tour: The Designed Landscape

Thursdays & Saturdays, through October 27 | 11AM–12:15PM
Castle Hill
Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult $10; Child (age 12 and under) FREE. Combined Great House & Estate tour admission: Nonmembers $18.

Hot & Cold Tour: Behind the Scenes of the Great House

Wednesdays, September 19, October 3, 17 | 5–6:30PM
Castle Hill 978.356.4351 x4049
Pre-registration required at thetrustees.org.
Members: $15. Nonmembers: $20.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Guided Kayak Paddles
Saturdays & Sundays, through September | 2–4PM
Crane Beach & Crane Wildlife Refuge
978.356.4351 x4062
Members: $40. Nonmembers: $50

Trails & Sails: Great Marsh Creek Walk
Saturday, September 22 | 10AM–12NOON
Crane Beach & Castle Hill 978.356.4351 x 4062
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Choate Island Day
Saturday, October 6 | 10AM–3PM
Crane Beach & Crane Wildlife Refuge
978.356.4351 x 4062
Members: Adult $10; Child $5.
Nonmembers: Adult $15; Child $10.

Chef's Octoberfest on the Grand Allée
Sunday, October 21 | 1–4PM
Castle Hill
Visit thetrustees.org for details.

Crane Estate Art Show & Sale
Art Show Preview
Friday, November 2 | 7–10PM
Castle Hill
Members: $50. Nonmembers: $60.

Art Show & Sale
Saturday & Sunday, November 3 & 4 | 10AM–4PM
Castle Hill
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Lords, Ladies, & Mummies: Highclere Castle, the Real Downton Abbey
A lecture by Curt DiCamillo
In partnership with the Royal Oak Foundation
Wednesday, November 7 | 6:30PM
Castle Hill
Please pre-register at thetrustees.org.
Members: $30. Nonmembers: $40.
Special: Attend our Hot & Cold Tour at 5PM, before the lecture; with purchase of lecture admission: Members: $10. Nonmembers: $15.

Cranberry Picking & Canning Workshop
Wednesday, November 14 | 5–9PM
Crane Beach & Castle Hill 978.356.4351 x4062
Members: $15. Nonmembers: $20.

APPLETON FARMS
Ipswich & Hamilton

978.356.5728 x18

Old House Visitor Center
Appleton Family museum rooms and library.
Wednesdays–Sundays | 11AM–3PM
For more information:
978.356.5728, thetrustees.org/appleton

SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Farm Day
Sunday, September 16 | 10AM–3PM
Members: $20/car. Nonmembers: $25/car.

PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

Farm Fiddleheads
Six Tuesdays, September 18, 25;
October 2, 9, 16, 30 | 10–11:30AM
Six sessions: Members: $80. Nonmembers: $100.

Farmstead & Old House Tour
Sundays, September 23, October 21,
November 18 | 3–5PM
FREE to all on September 23 as part of Trails & Sails. Other dates: Members: FREE.
Nonmembers: $5.

Wild Fermentation
Wednesday, October 3 | 5:30–8PM
Members: $15. Nonmembers: $20.

Sunday Afternoons at the Old House Lecture Series
Sundays, October 28, November 4,
December 2 | 2–4PM
Pre-registration required at thetrustees.org.
Members: $15. Nonmembers: $20.
Visit thetrustees.org for details.

SOUTHEAST

508.636.4693 x13, kheard@ttor.org

Beyond the Barways Guided Walk
Friday, September 21 | 9–11AM
Westport Field Office, 1100 Main Road, Westport. Members only.

Composting Workshop
Saturday, September 22 | 1PM
Westport Town Farm, Westport
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

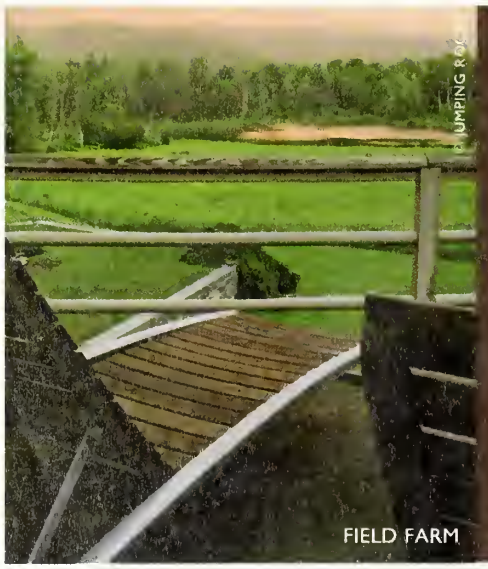
Landscape Drawing
Saturday, September 29 | 10AM–12NOON
Rain date: Sunday, September 30
Westport Town Farm, Westport
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Lyman Reserve Bird Walk
Saturday, October 6 | 7AM
Lyman Reserve, Buzzards Bay
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

Harvest Festival
Saturday, October 20 | 12NOON–4PM
Westport Town Farm, Westport
Members & Nonmembers: FREE (optional donation).

Fire Ecology Walk
Saturday, November 17 | 10AM–12NOON
Freetown/Fall River State Forest Headquarters, Slab Bridge Road, Assonet
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.

The River Project Sculpture Exhibit
Through May 18, 2013
Slocum's River Reserve, S. Dartmouth
Members & Nonmembers: FREE.



Plan Your Fall Getaway

Escape to the mountains or the sea with a stay at one of our elegant inns. Get active, enjoy the pleasures of art galleries and antique stores, or relax and enjoy the view.

THE INN AT CASTLE HILL
280 Argilla Road, Ipswich
tel 978.412.2555
www.theinnatcastlehill.com

THE GUEST HOUSE AT FIELD FARM
554 Sloan Road, Williamstown
tel 413.458.3135
www.guesthouseatfieldfarm.org

All proceeds from your stay benefit our conservation work at Field Farm and the Crane Estate.

CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS

NANTUCKET

COSKATA–COATUE WILDLIFE REFUGE

508.228.6799

Natural History Tours

Daily, through October 8 | 9:30AM & 1:30PM
Members: Adult $30; Child $15.
Nonmembers: Adult $40; Child $15.
Private tour: $240 (8 people).

MARTHA'S VINEYARD

CAPE POGE WILDLIFE REFUGE, LONG POINT WILDLIFE REFUGE, MYTOI, MENEMSHA HILLS, NORTON POINT, WASQUE

508.627.3599 Cape Poge Tours
Tour space limited. Please call to pre-register for all tours to ensure availability.

Cape Poge Lighthouse Tours

Daily, through Columbus Day
9AM, 11AM, 1PM, 3PM
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, Chappaquiddick
Members: Adult $20; Child $12.
Nonmembers: Adult $25; Child $12.

Cape Poge Natural History Tours

Fridays–Mondays, through Columbus Day
9:30AM & 1:30PM
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, Chappaquiddick
Members: Adult $25; Child $18.
Nonmembers: Adult $35; Child $18.

Poucha Pond Self-Guided Kayak Tours

Daily, through September | 9AM–3PM
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, Chappaquiddick
Members only. First hour: $20/single boat, $30/double boat. Additional hours: half-price.
Boats are available first come, first served.



Learn something new and enjoy your favorite Trustees reservation at the same time on these special REI Outdoor School programs. For more information and to register, visit www.thetrustees.org/REI.

Beginning Bike Skills

REI Members: $65. Nonmembers: $85.
Saturday, October 6 | 10AM–2PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Introduction to Mountain Biking

REI Members: $65. Nonmembers: $85.
Saturdays, September 15, October 6 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Introduction to GPS Navigation Class

REI Members: $60. Nonmembers: $80.
Saturday, October 13 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Introduction to Map & Compass Class

REI Members: $60. Nonmembers: $80.
Saturdays, September 29, October 20, November 10*, December 8 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield
*Meet at Boston REI store on November 10.

Digital Photography Field Class

REI Members: $65. Nonmembers: $85.
Saturday, October 6 | 9AM–3PM
World's End, Hingham

Saturdays, October 20, 27 | 9AM–3PM
Sunday, October 28* | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield
*Meet at REI Boston store on October 28.

Introduction to Winter Camping Class

REI Members: $45. Nonmembers: $65.
Saturdays, October 20; November 17; December 1, 8 | 10AM–2PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Backcountry Cooking Class

REI Members: $45. Nonmembers: $65.
Saturdays, October 27*; November 3, 24 | 10AM–2PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield
*Meet at REI Boston store on October 27.

Saturday, December 1 | 10AM–2PM
World's End, Hingham

Learn to Kayak

REI Members: $70. Nonmembers: $90.
Sunday, September 23 | 9AM–12NOON & 1–4PM
World's End, Hingham

Saturday, September 29 | 9AM–12NOON & 1–4PM
Charles River Peninsula, Needham

Sunset Kayak Tour

REI Members: $70. Nonmembers: $90.
Saturday, September 21 | 5–8PM
World's End, Hingham

Kayak Tour

REI Members: $120. Nonmembers: $140.
Saturday, September 15 | 9AM–3PM
Crane Wildlife Refuge, Ipswich

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Join us to learn more about:
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*Offer valid until 12/31/12. Offer valid toward payment of one REI Outdoor School class or outing that takes place prior to Jan. 30, 2013. Offer not valid on prior purchases. Offer only redeemable at REI stores in Massachusetts. Not redeemable online. Offer is nontransferable and is not redeemable for cash, merchandise or gift cards. Limit one coupon per customer.

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Dexter Drumlin, Lancaster
Nathaniel Dexter gifted 38 acres to The Trustees in 1999.



BY JEANNE O'ROURKE

a garden of grace notes

JOHN MCLENNAN, JR. accomplished composer of contemporary music and creator of Ashintully Gardens in Tyringham, almost seemed an accidental gardener. His wife Katharine recounts the genesis of the masterpiece that would eventually become his opus: "It started out as just wild country: John didn't even have a plan for it in the beginning. He just started cleaning and clearing, little by little, bit by bit each year. I almost could say that it grew itself, with his encouragement. He had no idea what lay ahead until he did it."

What he did over the course of 30 years was to blend natural forms – a stream, native deciduous trees, a rounded knoll, and rising flanking meadows – into an ordered and stunning arrangement with both formal and informal beauty. It's renowned as such a masterpiece today that garden clubs and landscape architects across the country have put it on their must-see lists for years. Katharine describes the particular effect Ashintully has on its visitors: "Several years ago an elderly landscape architect came to see the gardens, and when I met him, he had tears in his eyes at the graceful quality of John's work. It's truly a very nourishing place."

McLennan spent his childhood summers on the idyllic estate, the centerpiece of which was a 35-room Georgian-style mansion (the "Marble Palace," as it was known, was ravaged by fire in 1952 – today only its massive Doric columns remain, a romantic ruin in the midst of the property). John inherited the estate in 1937 and, after their marriage in 1966, brought Katharine to live in the farmhouse on the property. Starting in 1977, the couple began gifting large parcels of land to The Trustees of Reservations. Those initial acres – nearly 500 in all gifted over 14 years – became the McLennan Reservation, with its wild forested hills and wetlands tucked into Tyringham Valley. "Later, when we found out John had cancer, it became so important to him that the gardens also go to The Trustees. It was his life's work, and he couldn't have borne it if Fred [Winthrop, then The Trustees' Executive Director] had said they didn't want it."

But who wouldn't want such a cultural and historic living gem, to inspire others? Katharine recalls a tender moment from decades ago: "It was 1976 and John was trimming the grass by the stone steps with hair scissors and I started to laugh to myself at the sight. John turned around with a blissful expression on his face and said 'I think if I had known how much I would love it, and how good I am at it…' For the most modest man in the world to compliment himself on his achievement – and to recognize that it was his gift, I was thrilled."

Katharine, a long-time *Semper Virens Society* member who recently donated her final remaining interest in Ashintully Gardens to The Trustees, continues, "It was wonderful for him to know that his legacy would stand. I was really just an admirer. I just truly loved what he did." And, thanks to the McLennans' amazing generosity, so can everyone else.

Jeanne O'Rourke is Associate Director for Marketing & Communications for The Trustees.



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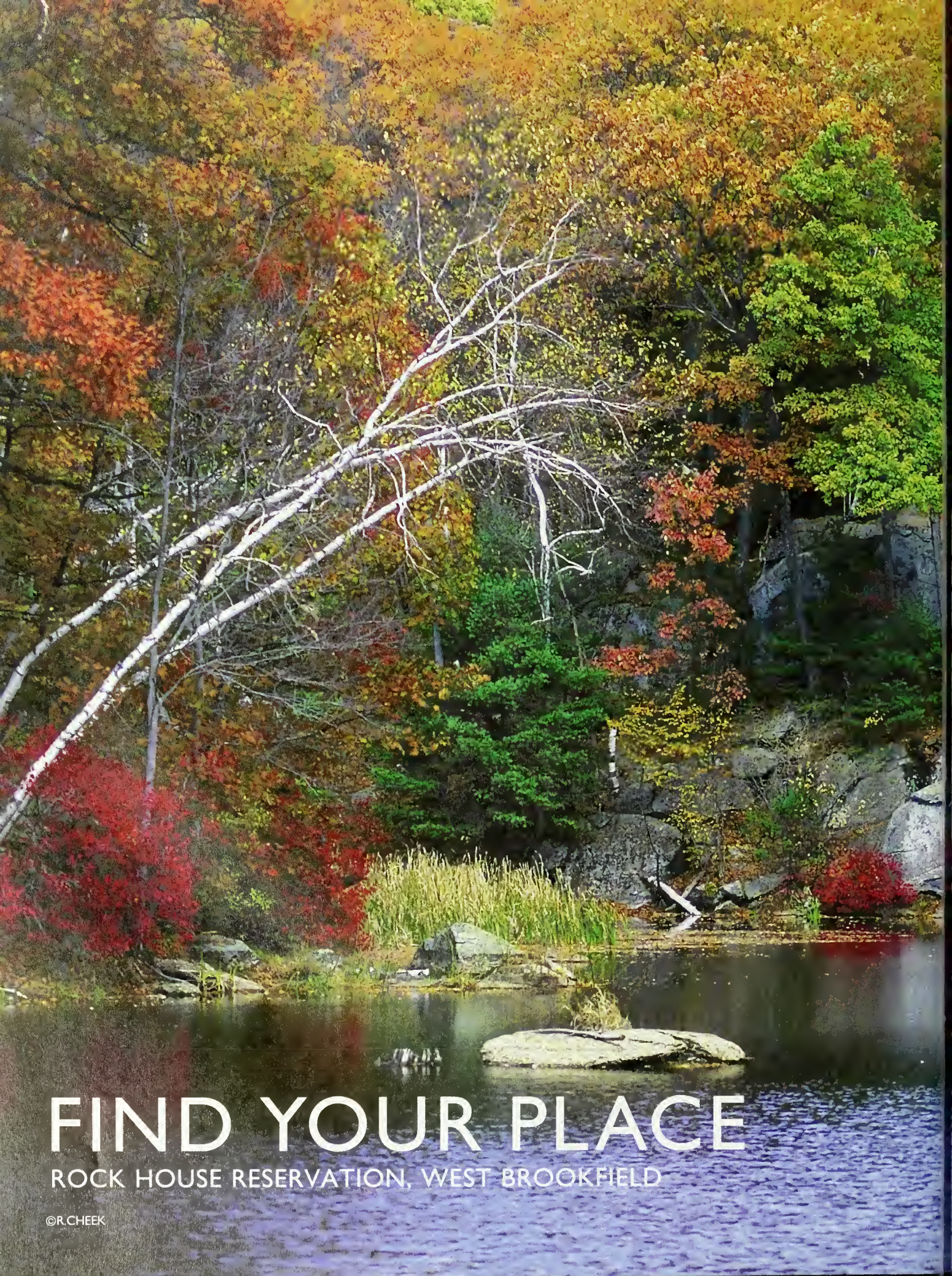
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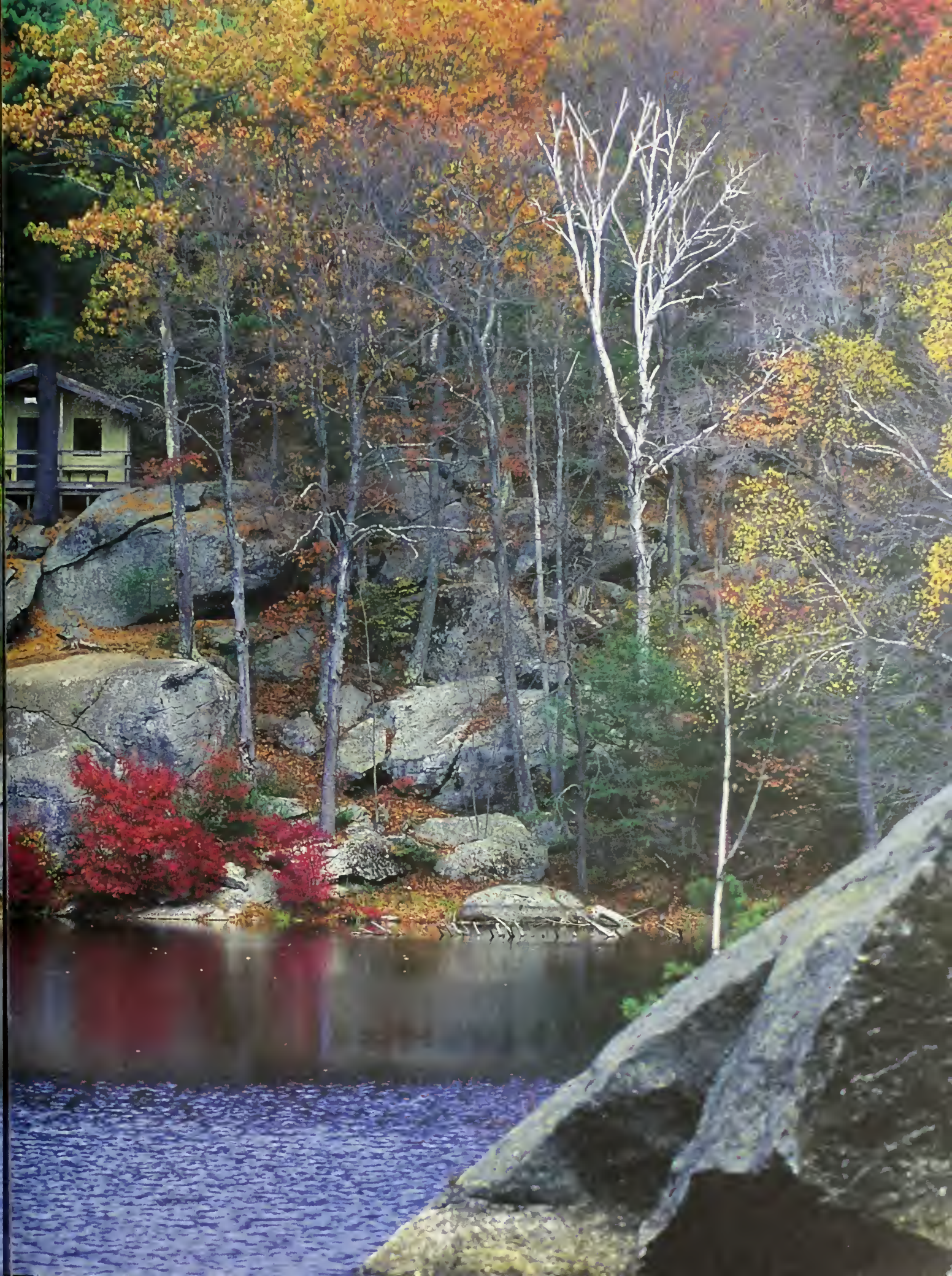
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